

Cleanup to Start at Former Zinc Smelter

Eagle Zinc Superfund Site
Hillsboro, Illinois

November 2014

You're invited

On **Thursday, Nov. 20**, U.S. EPA will hold a formal **public meeting** at 6:30 p.m., at Hillsboro High School (Cafeteria), 522 E. Tremont St., Hillsboro, to discuss the first phase of the Eagle Zinc site cleanup. If you want to know more about the work in Hillsboro, contact:

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Or visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/eaglezinc/index.htm>

To see copies of documents related to the site, visit the document repository at:

Hillsboro Public Library
214 School St.

The first phase in the cleanup of the Eagle Zinc site will begin around early December. Residents can expect to see workers and heavy equipment operating on the 132-acre property located in a commercial/residential area in northeast Hillsboro. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will oversee all the cleanup work. The first phase of the project involves the demolition of all site structures. Building debris will either be safely buried on-site under a protective cap or recycled. There will be some truck traffic to and from the location. U.S. EPA contractors will monitor the site during this demolition to verify all operations are safe to workers, residents and businesses. This initial site cleanup will take about five months to complete. U.S. EPA will hold a public meeting to provide more information on the cleanup and answer questions from the public (*see box, left*).

The second and final cleanup phase is planned for later in 2015, if funding is provided. In this phase, workers will dig up contaminated soil and sediment (mud) and place it safely on the site under a protective cap.

Background

The property is located in Hillsboro Township, about 50 miles northeast of St. Louis, Missouri, and 30 miles south of Springfield, Illinois. The nearest residential properties are located about 100 feet west of the site.

The Lanyon Zinc Co. began zinc smelter operations in 1912. Eagle-Picher Industries purchased the location in 1919 and continued zinc smelting and manufacturing sulfuric acid and zinc oxide until 1980.



This photo shows the zinc oxide furnace house and main rotary kiln.



Furnace room and cooling towers.



Perimeter air sampling locations (zones) around the site during cleanup work will protect nearby residents.

After 1980, the site was purchased by Sherwin-Williams, which continued manufacturing zinc oxide until the plant was sold to the Eagle Zinc Co. in 1984. Eagle Zinc processed zinc oxide until all industrial operations ceased in 2003.

Information repository

You may review site-related documents and files at:

Hillsboro Public Library
214 School St.

On the Web

<http://www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/eaglezinc/index.htm>